



Proclamation

- In Memoriam -

Former Hawai'i State Representative Keo Nakama

WHEREAS, Former Hawai'i State Representative Keo Nakama was born on May 21, 1920; graduated from Maui High School; attended The Ohio State University, where he received his Bachelor's and Master's Degree; and

WHEREAS, Former Hawai'i State Representative Keo Nakama excelled at swimming and baseball; his legendary swimming career began in the Hawaiian Commercial & Sugar Company irrigation ditches in Pu'unene, Maui as a child and took him to becoming the captain of The Ohio State University Swimming Team; and

WHEREAS, Former Hawai'i State Representative Keo Nakama achieved early success as a swimmer; during his swim career in the 1940's, Keo Nakama won 27 United States National Championships from 100 yards to 1500 meters and set the world record swim for a mile at 20:29; and

WHEREAS, Former Hawai'i State Representative Keo Nakama storied athletic career at The Ohio State University consisted of swimming and baseball; he excelled at both sports winning Big Ten and NCAA titles; Former Hawai'i State Representative Keo Nakama's leadership propelled him to becoming captain of The Ohio State University Swimming Team in his last two years and captain of The Ohio State University Baseball Team in his last year; and

WHEREAS, Former Hawai'i State Representative Keo Nakama's most famous accomplishment is becoming the first person to swim completely across the 27-mile Kaiwi Channel from Molokai to Oahu; Former Hawaii State Representative Keo Nakama completed the accomplishment in 15.5 hours at the age of 41 in 1961; and

WHEREAS, Former Hawai'i State Representative Keo Nakama returned to Hawai'i as a high school swim coach, teacher and athletic director before being elected to the Hawai'i State House of Representatives in 1964; Former Hawai'i State Representative Keo Nakama served the Hawai'i State House of Representative 19th District for five terms until 1974; and

WHEREAS, Former Hawai'i State Representative Keo Nakama was inducted into the International Swimming Hall of Fame in 1975 and the Hawai'i Sports Hall of Fame in 1998; and

WHEREAS, Former Hawai'i State Representative Keo Nakama peacefully passed away on September 7, 2011 and is survived by his six daughters, Karen Kiki, Kacy, Teri, Joey, Lyn and Jamy; his sister, Joyce Pang; nine grandchildren; and five great grandchildren;

THEREFORE I, NEIL ABERCROMBIE, Governor of the State of Hawai'i, and I, BRIAN SCHATZ, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, extend our deepest sympathy and condolences to the Nakama family on the passing of a true son of Hawai'i, and as a mark of respect for the memory of Former Hawai'i State Representative Keo Nakama, hereby order, by the authority vested in us by the Constitution and laws of the State of Hawai'i, that the National Flag and the Hawai'i State Flag shall be flown at half-staff at all State offices and agencies as well as the Hawai'i National Guard from sunrise on September 30, 2011 through sunset on September 30, 2011.

DONE at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this twenty-seventh day of September, 2011.


NEIL ABERCROMBIE
Governor, State of Hawai'i


BRIAN SCHATZ
Lt. Governor, State of Hawai'i